

AUG 16 2007

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REMARKS

Claims 4-9 and 13-15 remain pending in the application. Claims 4-6 are amended.

As an initial matter, Applicants wish to bring to the attention of the Examiner that Applicants will file a Notice of Appeal and Pre-Appeal Brief Request for Review subsequent to filing the present Amendment.

In the present Amendment, claims 4-6 are amended to remove the term "exchangeable", merely for the purpose of reducing the issues before the Pre-Appeal Brief Review panel, and claim 4 is amended to correct a typographical error in line 4 of the claim.

In the Final Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 4-9 and 13-15 under 35 U.S.C. §112, 2nd paragraph as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter regarded as the invention. Specifically, the Examiner asserted that the term "exchangeable" is indefinite.

Although Applicants believe the 35 U.S.C. §112, 2nd paragraph rejection to be improper, Applicants are removing the term "exchangeable" to reduce the issues before the Pre-Appeal Brief Review panel.

In the Final Office Action, the Examiner also rejected claims 4-9 and 13-15 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Dygert (U.S. Patent No. 6,864,641). Applicants will traverse this rejection in the Pre-Appeal Brief Request for Review, which will be subsequently filed.

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SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

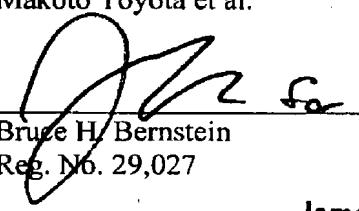
Applicants recognize that the current status of the present application is after-Final. However, Applicants respectfully submit that entry of the present amendment is proper under the current circumstances, as the present amendment does not raise new issues requiring further search and/or consideration, and reduces the issues for appeal, prior to the entry of a Notice of Appeal and Pre-Appeal Brief Request for Review. Thus, entry of the present amendment is respectfully requested.

Any amendments to the claims which have been made in this amendment, and which have not been specifically noted to overcome a rejection based upon the prior art, should be considered to have been made for a purpose unrelated to patentability, and no estoppel should be deemed to attach thereto.

Should an extension of time be necessary to maintain the pendency of this application, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee to Deposit Account No. 19-0089.

Should the Examiner have any questions or comments regarding this amendment, or the present application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
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